

Application No.:09/910,348
Amendment dated: September 26, 2003
Reply to Office Action of August 26, 2003

RD-27764

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The PTO communication of August 26, 2003 consisted of a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The basis for the cited non-compliance was the absence from the list of claims of the full text of withdrawn claims 33-65. Applicants herewith provide a list of claims which includes the full text of said withdrawn claims 33-65. Applicants note, however, that the requirement that the full text of withdrawn claims be included in the amendment appears to have become effective only after the subject amendment was submitted to the Patent Office. Revised Amendment Practice Advisory (Rev. 3 (7/24/03)) indicates an effective date of the requirements given in the advisory of July 30, 2003. The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was issued in response to Applicants' amendment which was received by the Patent Office on July 25, 2003. The Applicants make note of this apparent discrepancy in an effort to make the circumstances of the present submission as transparent as possible. In accord with the Revised Amendment Practice Advisory (Rev. 3 (7/24/03)) Applicants have submitted only the complete claims list and have not reproduced the other components of the Amendment submitted to the Patent Office on July 25, 2003.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-32. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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9/26/03

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